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S.C. SUPREME COURT

ALAN WILSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

November 5, 2025

The Honorable Patricia A. Howard
Supreme Court of South Carolina
Post Office Box 11330
Columbia, South Carolina 29211
(via e-filing only - supctfilings@sccourts.org)

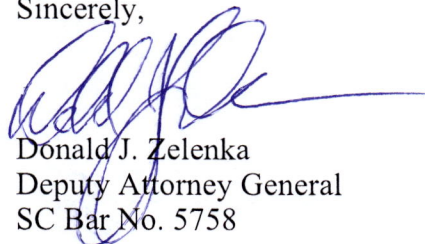
Re: David F. Gates, #387073 v. State of South Carolina
Appellate Case No. 2025-000869

Dear Ms. Howard:

Respondent's Return to Petition for Writ of Certiorari in the above-referenced post-conviction relief appeal is due to be served and filed today. Respondent respectfully requests a third, thirty-day extension to serve and file this return based on the heavy caseload of undersigned counsel.

Please let me know if I can provide the Court with any additional information regarding this third extension request.

Sincerely,



Donald J. Zelenka
Deputy Attorney General
SC Bar No. 5758

DD/wjc

cc: C. Rauch Wise, Counsel for Petitioner (via email only)